

willingness to fight for the American people and way of life.

Again, I would like to thank Wilfred for his service as we remember all those who have protected freedom around the world and have made sacrifices to keep America safe on this Memorial Day.●

TRIBUTE TO DR. CHARLES RUCH

● Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I recognize Dr. Charles Ruch, outgoing president of the South Dakota School of Mines and Technology in Rapid City who is retiring after 5 years of service to the university.

The School of Mines was established in 1885 and enjoys a nationwide reputation for excellence in engineering, the sciences, and computer technology. President Ruch has received praise from the South Dakota Board of Regents for his keen focus on the academic, research and public service missions at the university. Since his arrival in 2003, the number of doctoral programs has doubled and the awards for research-related grants and contracts have increased 35 percent in the last 4 years to \$17.2 million. Under his tenure, a new business incubator on campus has created important links between higher education, economic development and the Black Hills region. Additionally, under his visionary leadership, the School of Mines has conducted "cutting edge" defense research projects on pressing current day issues such as detecting and defeating improvised explosive devices and developing new technologies to inexpensively repair combat vehicles. He has been recognized by faculty, students and alumni as a strong advocate for the institution.

His leadership and dedication to the School of Mines will be greatly missed. It gives me great pleasure to congratulate Dr. Ruch on a successful career in higher education and wish him the best on his retirement.●

TRIBUTE TO SQUIRE RUDOLPH BROEL

● Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I recognize the 90th birthday of Mr. Squire Rudolph Broel.

A native South Dakotan, Squire was born in Lesterville, SD, on May 29, 1918, to Rudolph and May Broel. Upon graduation from Lesterville High School in 1936, Squire was employed in various jobs throughout the area including at the Stuelpnagals Chicken Hatchery. On June 24, 1940, Squire married another Lesterville native Evelyn Hladky and they would eventually have three children: Larry Broel, Carolyn McDonald, and Jean Lehn. During World War II Squire served in the Army Air Corps and for most of his service was stationed in Mississippi.

Soon after his discharge and return to South Dakota, Squire and his family moved to Sturgis, SD, where he still lives today. It was in Sturgis, that

Squire became a fireman at the Fort Meade Veterans Hospital in 1951. He worked there until his retirement in 1978, and during that time he earned many awards, including the Veterans Hospital Civil Service Award for South Dakota in 1964.

After his retirement from Fort Meade, Squire continued to serve as a fireman for the Sturgis Volunteer Fire Department and in 1985 he was honored by the Governor of South Dakota for his 50 years of fire service with the proclamation of "Squire Broel Day" throughout the State. In 1994, Squire earned the South Dakota Outstanding Fire Service Award. During his career as a fireman Squire was also a member of the Black Hills Safety Council, the South Dakota Fire Chiefs Association, and the Keep South Dakota Green Association.

Now officially retired from the Sturgis Volunteer Fire Department, Squire remains active with numerous volunteer activities and in various civic organizations. He also enjoys hunting, watching baseball, traveling, and spending time with his five grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

It gives me great pleasure to commemorate the 90th birthday of Squire Broel and to wish him continued health and happiness in the years to come.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mrs. Neiman, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations and withdrawals which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

REPORT ON THE CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY THAT WAS ORIGINALLY DECLARED IN EXECUTIVE ORDER 13303 OF MAY 22, 2003, WITH RESPECT TO THE STABILIZATION OF IRAQ—PM 50

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:

To the Congress of the United States:

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Reg-*

ister and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent the enclosed notice to the *Federal Register* for publication. This notice states that the national emergency declared in Executive Order 13303 of May 22, 2003, as modified in scope and relied upon for additional steps taken in Executive Order 13315 of August 28, 2003, Executive Order 13350 of July 29, 2004, Executive Order 13364 of November 29, 2004, and Executive Order 13438 of July 17, 2007, is to continue in effect beyond May 22, 2008.

Obstacles to the orderly reconstruction of Iraq, the restoration and maintenance of peace and security in the country, and the development of political, administrative, and economic institutions in Iraq continue to pose an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security and foreign policy of the United States. Accordingly, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency with respect to this threat and maintain in force the measures taken in response to this threat.

GEORGE W. BUSH.
THE WHITE HOUSE, May 20, 2008.

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

At 5:41 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bill:

H.R. 2419. An act to provide for the continuation of agricultural programs through fiscal year 2012, and for other purposes.

The enrolled bill was subsequently signed by the Acting President pro tempore (Mr. TESTER).

At 6:07 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following concurrent resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 355. Concurrent resolution providing for a conditional adjournment of the House of Representatives and a conditional recess or adjournment of the Senate.

The message also announced that the House has passed the following bills, without amendment:

S. 3029. An act to provide for an additional temporary extension of programs under the Small Business Act and the Small Business Investment Act of 1958, and for other purposes.

S. 3035. An act to temporarily extend the programs under the Higher Education Act of 1965.

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bills were read the first time:

S. 3036. A bill to direct the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to